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FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET

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FROM: Attorney James R. Graves

TO FAX NO: (202) 307-1454

TO THE ATTENTION OF: Renata B. Hesse

Antitrust Division

RE: Letter to Attorney General John Ashcroft

COMMENTS OR INSTRUCTIONS:

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January 28, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
United States Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

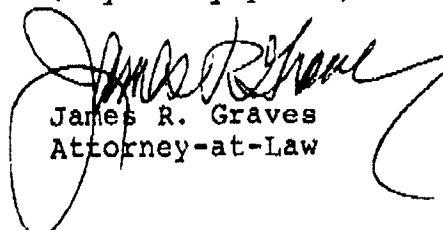
Dear Mr. Ashcroft,

As a Microsoft supporter, I would like to point out some reasons why the antitrust case should be closed at the federal level. The settlement is fair and reasonable, and has been extensive enough for nine states to approve. I fear that the states pursuing further litigation will never be satisfied.

Under the terms of the agreement, Microsoft will make significant changes in the way it develops and licenses its software. The corporation has agreed to more or less open its inventions to the competition, allowing them to use the success of Windows to launch their own competing products. For instance, Microsoft has granted broad new rights to software engineers and computer makers to configure Windows so that competing programs can be promoted on Windows itself.

Although these concessions make antitrust precedent, Microsoft has been willing to change in an effort to bring this case to a close. As long as the industry leader is giving away market share, there will always be those that want more. I hope you will pay attention to the merits of this case. If so, you will see fit to end this matter.

Very truly yours,


James R. Graves
Attorney-at-Law

JRG:cag